

HOMESTYLE

HomeStyle | 4-12-18 Edition

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- ▶ THINK SPRING LANDSCAPING
- ▶ CRAFTING YOUR HOME RESORT
- ▶ UPDATE YOUR HOME WITH NEW TRENDS



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Think Spring: Now's the time to plan the landscape of your dreams

The weather outside is frightful, and the week ahead calls for falling temperatures, maybe even snow. That makes it easy to dream of warmer spring weather, but to plan for it? To sit and strategize for making the most of next year's lawn and landscape projects? That seems like no small feat.

It doesn't have to be

The good news is that spring will be here before you know it, and now is the best time to work with your local landscape professional to set the stage for a healthy spring. With the expertise and knowledge of a professional, you'll be well on your

way to get a thriving landscape you'll enjoy come spring.

Finding the right professional for you

Quality lawn care and landscape professionals are all around you, but finding the perfect one can be challenging if you go it alone. Instead, consult the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) professional directory at www.loveyourlandscape.org/find-a-pro/. You'll have access to the NALP's comprehensive directory and can find inspiration through the organization's expert advice columns and idea center, motivating you to take your spring

landscaping projects to new heights.

Making the most of your relationship with your landscape professional

The initial conversations you have with your landscape professional are essential for creating a beautiful outdoor space. When working with a professional, you can become more prepared by considering the answers to these questions in advance of your first meeting.

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HOMESTYLE

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Crafting Your Resort Right At Home

At the risk of sounding cliché, the sky is the limit on outdoor technology! If you've got it inside, we can do it outside.

The latest trend in creating outdoor living rooms is precisely in line with what we design for our clients outdoors – a space that is just as relaxed, comfortable and entertaining as indoors with all the benefits of being out in the open. The Northeast climate provides us with a few beautiful, precious summer months that we all aspire to make the most of, and we know just how to help you do just that.

Inspired by Sound

Let's start with music. We collaborate with clients to outfit spaces, using one or many weather-proof speaker options, including rock, wall, ceiling, in-ground, deck and more. We achieve the music everywhere feel that you experience at your favorite al fresco restaurant or on your last vacation at a beloved resort.

Don't Miss a Thing

TVs are quickly becoming a standard addition to outdoor entertaining, great to flip on for a few minutes at the grill or for watching an entire game or show outside. Clients are often surprised at the sharp

resolution offered by water, cold and heat-proof TVs. And, for larger get-togethers, we can set up portable, theater-size viewing screens that are great for crowds – think of those summer movie nights in the backyard with friends and family!

Safety

As you spend more time outside, it is important to consider security in other areas of the home. We can install cameras throughout the house, front door area and in the backyard. This is great for simply keeping an eye on the kids in another room or to know exactly what's happening when you are not able to be at home. We work side-by-side with clients to determine what's best for their lifestyle, adding peace of mind.

At Your Finger Tips!

Add in the convenience factor. We set up control and automation on your smartphone for not just the music and television, but also lighting, irrigation, gates, pool/spa control, cameras and intercoms.

Partnership

Our team works seamlessly with each client's landscape designer/architect, landscaper, irrigation professional, electrician, pool expert and plumber. If you are in the market for a complete backyard makeover



Content and photos supplied by Kevin Crouse

or just considering the addition of music or TV, meet with Kevin to brainstorm about what works best for your family, space and budget.

"Kevin and his team are simply the best in their field. They are professional, courteous, meticulously clean, and timely. They start and finish a project on time, and you don't even know they are there. I highly recommend them to anyone who wishes to embark on any home video/audio projects!"

-Longtime KCAD Client

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* **What's important to you?** You don't need to know every last detail, but you should have a broad understanding of what you want. Do you want to entertain? Have space to garden or create a private area to enjoy quietly by yourself? Determining what you want your yard to be and how it will be used can help your landscape professional realize your vision.

* **What's your budget?** When it comes to dreaming of the perfect landscape project, the limit is your imagination. But once you place some real-world practicality behind it, the limit will ultimately be your budget. So, how much are you willing to spend? It's a good idea to have a rough estimate of this figure in your head before discussing plans with your landscape professional. Relaying this information to them will allow them to tailor a project that matches your expectations and your budget.

* **What plants are best for your property?** Flowers, shrubs and trees are all integral to any landscape project and you should have an idea of what you'd like to see. If you don't know, visit your local greenhouse or nursery for inspiration and gain a greater understanding of native plants that fare well in your environment.

* **What level of lawn care is needed?** Whether or not you have sprawling acres of land, a healthy lawn of any size and shape sets the foundation for a beautiful landscape. Your lawn care professional can review with you how to grow and maintain a lawn through all the seasons. Consider if weed control, mowing, aeration, fertilization and irrigation may be needed as part of your lawn care program. A lawn care specialist can help you budget and plan for these tasks now, even if your lawn is covered in frost or snow!

It's never too early to start planning.

The long weeks of winter are here, but now is the perfect time to formalize your plans for a gorgeous, spring lawn and landscape. A professional can help you reach every goal you've dreamed about. So start planning today. Your home will benefit from your preparation - and on those cold mornings, it sure helps to dream of spring, doesn't it?





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Photo Courtesy of Progress Lighting

Mix and Match: Update Your Home With 2018 Design Trends

Are you planning to refresh your home but aren't sure where to start? Some of today's most popular design trends encourage mixing and matching favorite home accents within the same space.

There is no need to feel limited by fixtures or finishes, according to design expert, Colleen Visage, who is Progress Lighting's vice president of Product Management.

"Homeowners today are not content to have the same look, the same finishes or the same collections throughout the house," says Visage. "They really want to personalize their spaces."

Coordinating complementary pieces creates a cohesive feel to the home. It can also reinforce a unique style because the ultimate outcome is a custom design. Here are a few ways to master the mix and match trend.

Mix Monochromatic Accents: Tone-on-tone designs are very popular in kitchens, bathrooms, entryways and living areas. Countertops, cabinets and home accents in varying shades of grays and creams can create a sophisticated statement. These tones pair perfectly with gold, brass or brushed nickel finishes.

Design with Dual Tones: Mixed metals or dual tones are on-trend and very popular in home design today. This look can be achieved through mixing fixtures with different, but complementary finishes. For example, Progress Lighting offers fixtures that feature finishes with contrasting accents, such as antique bronze and brass, antique bronze and natural brass or polished nickel with silver ridge -- adding visual interest.

Pendant Groupings: Pendant groupings are commonly used in a foyer, over a kitchen island or above a dining room table. These versatile fixtures can be mixed and matched to create a

custom cluster design for a statement-making look.

"I like to design areas that are so inviting, people don't want to leave," says Susan Wilson, designer and founder of Susan Wilson Interiors. "When a home features accents and lighting that work together seamlessly, it makes the spaces throughout memorable and relatable."

Searching for more design inspiration?

Visit progresslighting.com to view images, collections and project ideas for every budget, style and space.

Take your design vision to the next level and personalize your home's living spaces by mastering the art of the mix and match trend.

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